

## REMARKS

The following remarks are in response to the Office Action of January 29, 2002. Claims 1-24 are pending in this application. Re-examination and reconsideration of the application is requested.

Applicants acknowledge Examiner's rejection of claims 9 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 9 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner states, "the term 'rear' found in each of these claims does not find proper antecedent basis." Applicants have amended claims 9 and 19, in accord with the Examiner's remarks, to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants have not added any new matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, of claims 1 and 9.

### 35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 8-11, 15, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Coulson et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 5,589,288). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Further, claims 1, 8, 9, 15, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Bunyea et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 5,663,011). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

All claims have been amended to include the limitations in the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. Claims 20-23, which are new, are based entirely on the Examiner's statements of reasons of allowance. Accordingly, all claims are now in condition for allowance. A notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

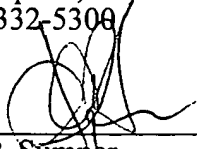


Date: \_\_\_\_\_

6/28/02

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

  
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John P. Sumner  
Reg. No. 29,114  
JPS:jvd

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims

Claims 1, 9, 10, 15 and 19 have been amended as follows:

1. (Once Amended) A cordless power tool including a battery, the power tool comprising:
  - (a) a main body portion;
  - (b) a handle portion [depending] extending from the main body portion; and
  - (c) a mechanism for releasably securing a battery having battery terminals to the handle portion [opposite the main body portion], the mechanism including:
    - (i) a battery receiving portion integral with the handle portion, the battery receiving portion having at least one guide channel and battery contacts disposed therein;
    - (ii) a battery having an attachment portion integral with the battery, the attachment portion having at least one guide rail and being constructed and arranged for engaging the battery receiving portion such that
      - a. the battery terminals engage the battery contacts, and
      - b. the at least one guide channel and the at least one guide rail interlock;
    - (iii) a closure member operable with and transversely disposed at least partially within the battery receiving portion and configured to secure the battery within the battery receiving portion, the closure member having a lock position and a release position, the closure member including[: (i)] first and second opposite ends, the first end being disposed through a [side] wall of the tool housing and defining [a push button] a movable release arrangement for selectively moving the closure member from the lock position to the release position, thereby allowing the battery to be easily removed from the power tool.
9. (Once Amended) The power tool of claim 1, wherein:
  - (a) the power tool has a rear; and

- (b) the attachment portion slidably engages the battery receiving portion from the rear of the power tool.

10. (Once Amended) A mechanism for releasably securing a battery having battery terminals to a power tool housing, the mechanism comprising:

- (a) a battery receiving portion integral with the power tool housing, the battery receiving portion having battery contacts disposed therein and further having [a mounting surface for receiving a battery] at least one guide channel;
- (b) an attachment portion integral with the battery, the attachment portion having at least one guide rail and being constructed and arranged for engaging the battery receiving portion such that the battery terminals engage the battery contacts and the at least one guide channel and the at least one guide rail interlock;
- (c) a closure member operable with and arranged substantially perpendicular to the battery receiving portion and configured to secure the battery within the battery receiving portion when the closure member is in a lock position and to disengage the battery when the closure member is in a release position, the closure member including:
  - (i) first and second opposite ends;
  - (ii) [an elongated] a body portion;
  - (iii) a locking [finger] portion integral with and extending from the body portion substantially near the second end of the closure member, the locking [finger] portion being constructed and arranged for releasably securing the [attachment portion when] battery within the battery receiving portion when the battery is positioned within the battery receiving portion.

15. (Once Amended) A method of releasably securing a battery to a power tool housing, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a battery receiving portion integral with the tool housing and being configured with at least one guide channel, the battery receiving portion being operable with a closure member at least partially disposed transversely [disposed] within the battery receiving portion, the closure member having[: (i)] first and

second opposite ends, the first end being [disposed] exposed through a [side] wall of the tool housing and defining a [push button] finger engaging portion for selectively moving the closure member from a lock position to a release position, the closure member being movably biased in the lock position;

- (b) providing an attachment portion integral with the battery, the attachment portion being constructed and arranged for engaging the battery receiving portion, the attachment portion having at least one guide rail and;
- (c) aligning the attachment portion with the battery receiving portion;
- (d) moving the battery in a [first] direction such that the attachment portion slidably engages the battery receiving portion [and the closure member such that the closure member is urged into the release position]; [and]
- (e) [positioning the battery within] wherein the at least one guide channel in the battery receiving portion [such that the closure member returns to the lock position, thereby securing the battery to the power tool.] and the at least one guide rail on the attachment portion interlock; and
- (f) positioning the battery within the battery receiving portion such that the closure member moves away from the lock position and then, once the battery is inserted fully, to the to the lock position, thereby securing the battery to the power tool.

19. (Once Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein:

- (a) the power tool has a rear; and
- (b) the step of moving the battery in a first direction includes moving the battery in a first direction such that the attachment portion slidably engages the battery receiving portion from the rear of the power tool.

Claims 20-23 are new.